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ANNUAL REPORT

on the Sanitary Condition
of the
Thorne Rural District
1942

By

J. M. TAYLOR, M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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THORNE

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To the Chairman and Members of the Thorne Rural District Council

Gentlemen,

In accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health in Circular 2773, dated March 10th, 1943, the Annual Report is made as brief as possible. The various tables are in the forms prescribed by the Ministry, and are meant to ensure continuity of records.

The Birth Rate for 1942 is 21·86 per 1,000 population which compares with 15·8 for England. The rate in 1941 was 21·75.

The Death Rate is 9·67. The Death Rate for England is 11·6. The Death Rate for Thorne Rural District in 1941 was 10·8.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 68·3 per 1,000 live births, which is an improvement on 79·2 for 1941. The rate for England is 49.

There was an increase in the number of deaths from Diarrhoea in infants under 2 years. There were 16 in 1942 and 3 in 1941.

The number of Diptheria cases was 63, which compares favourably with 94 in 1941.

The number of Scarlet Fever cases was also less, there being 29 in 1942 and 39 in 1941.

Yours obediently,

J. M. TAYLOR,

28th July, 1943

Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL REPORT on the SANITARY CONDITION of the THORNE RURAL DISTRICT for 1942

General Statistics relating to the Rural District

The Rural District comprises five civil parishes, and has an area of 38,419 acres.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population for the year 1942 is 29,450.

The total number of inhabited houses in the district at the end of 1942, according to the rate books, was 7,161.

The Rateable Value of the district is £116,990.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £446.

Vital Statistics

In considering the Birth, Death and other rates which have been calculated for 1942, it must be borne in mind that:—

- (1) Non-Civilian Deaths are not included.
- (2) That Deaths and Births occurring amongst persons temporarily residing in this district on account of the war are included in the local figures.

Births

The estimate of population supplied by the Registrar-General for calculating the birth rate is 29,450.

The total number of births during 1942 was 644.

Of these 328 were males and 316 were females.

Legitimate births numbered 598.

Of these legitimate births 308 were males and 290 females.

Illegitimate births numbered 46, 20 being males and 26 females.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 21·86.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the population for England is 15·8.

The total number of stillbirths was 29.

Of these 13 were males and 16 females; and all were legitimate.

The stillbirth rate for the district per 1,000 total (live and still) births is 43.

The stillbirth rate for the district per 1,000 population is 0·98.

Deaths

The total number of Deaths during 1942 was 285.

Of these 153 were males and 132 females.

The actual or crude death rate for the district is 9.67 per 1,000 population.

No comparability factor is issued by the Registrar-General this year.

The death rate for England is 11.6.

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year

The total number was 44.

Of these 30 were males and 14 females.

28 males and 13 females were legitimate.

2 males and 1 female were illegitimate.

The death rate of infants under one year per 1,000 live births is 68.30.

The death rate for England is 49.

The death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births is 68.59.

The death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births is 65.

The following table gives the Infantile Death Rate for the last five years :—

1937	.....	92.4	per 1,000 births
1938	.....	61.9	.. ..
1939	.....	77.4	.. ..
1940	.....	74.8	.. ..
1941	.....	79.2	.. ..

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 35

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 7

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 1

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 16

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES:

From Sepsis, 1

Other causes, 2

The death rate from puerperal causes per 1,000 total (live and still) births is 4.4

The death rate from puerperal causes per 1,000 live births is 4.4.

Causes of Death in the Thorne Rural District, as supplied by the Registrar-General

Causes of Death	M	F
All causes	153	132
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1
Whooping Cough	0	1
Diphtheria	1	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	10	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	3
Syphilitic Diseases	1	0
Influenza	1	2
Measles	6	1
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	1	0
Cancer of Buccal Cavity, Oesophagus and Uterus	3	5
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	2
Cancer of Breast	0	2
Cancer of all other sites	10	12
Diabetes	1	5
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	6	15
Heart Disease	27	15
Other Diseases of circulatory system	6	1
Bronchitis	8	4
Pneumonia	9	9
Other respiratory diseases	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	10	6
Appendicitis	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases	1	4
Nephritis	0	4
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	0	1
Other maternal causes	0	2
Premature Birth	7	3
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases	8	2
Suicide	2	1
Road Traffic Accidents	1	1
Other violent causes	9	6
All other causes	19	17

Notifiable Diseases during the Year (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	20	6	0
Diphtheria	63	58	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	0
Pneumonia	13	0	0
Erysipelas	9	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	0	0
Enteric Fever	1	1	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	0

The following table gives a summary of the Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum) notified during the year, and arranged in age periods:

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Acute Poliomyelitis	Enteric Fever
Age Periods						
0	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	1	—	—	—	—
2	4	2	1	—	—	—
3	3	5	—	—	—	—
4	4	9	—	1	—	—
5	7	25	1	—	1	—
10	8	10	1	—	—	—
15	2	11	2	1	—	1
25	1	—	2	—	—	—
35	—	—	3	2	—	—
45	—	—	3	4	—	—
65	—	—	—	1	—	—
And upwards	29	63	13	9	1	1

Diphtheria

The 63 cases were distributed amongst the parishes as follows:—

	No. of Cases
Thorne	34
Stainforth	13
Hatfield	14
Sykehouse	2
Fishlake	0

They occurred during the year as follows:

	No of Cases
January	9
February	3
March	5
April	4
May	2
June	4
July	2
August	7
September	5
October	7
November	4
December	11

The Diphtheria case rate for the district works out at 2.13 per 1,000 population, whereas the rate for England is 1.05.

The Scarlet Fever case rate for the district is 0.98 per 1,000 population, whereas England's rate is 2.19.

Measles and Whooping Cough

Under provisional regulations which came into force on October 23rd, 1939, Measles and Whooping Cough became notifiable diseases. 441 cases of Measles were notified. There were 21 cases of Whooping Cough.

Puerperal Pyrexia

One case was notified, and was treated under arrangements made by the West Riding County Council.

Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917

No vaccinations under these regulations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Tuberculosis

The following table gives a summary of the cases notified during the year, also of the deaths, arranged in age periods:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	1
5	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	1
15	2	3	2	1	1	5	0	0
25	3	2	1	0	2	1	0	1
35	7	4	0	0	3	1	1	0
45	5	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
55	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
And upwards 65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	20	13	11	4	10	7	1	3

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

CASES:

Notified	Treated at home	Treated in Hospital	Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
2	2	0	2	0	0	0

If any medical practitioner wishes to have a case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum treated in hospital, all he has to do is to apply to the County Medical Officer who will arrange for the treatment.

School Closures

There were no school closures during the year, but several have been visited by the Sanitary Inspector for purposes of disinfection when cases of diphtheria have been notified from children attending them.

Water Supply

A bacteriological examination of the water supplied by the Thorne and District Water Company, in February 1942, gave results as follows:—

Bacteriological Analysis.—"Presumptive *Bacillus Coli*: None in 100 ml. of water. The examination shows that this water is satisfactory according to the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health."

Sewerage

No extension to the Council's sewers was made during 1942.

Camping Sites

One licence is in operation under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936

Smoke Abatement

Three observations were made but no unsatisfactory conditions were found.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Seven houses were found to be infested with Bed Bugs. All were treated effectively with insecticides.

Sanitary Inspectors' Report

Mr. B. Woodley and Mr. Wm. Bell report as follows:

Dairies and Cowsheds, etc.

152 Wholesale Traders on the Register.

63 Retail Traders on the Register.

All Cowsheds are inspected twice a year under Articles 1 and 25 Milk and Dairies Order 1926.

Shops Act 1934

25 Shops inspected.

One Statutory notice under Section 16 Shops Act, 1934, was served.

Common Lodging Houses

3 on Register.

All kept in satisfactory condition.

Canal Boats

190 on Register.

4 Inspected.

186 Boats in use.

Factories Act 1937

70 Factories in district.

House Scavenging

This is done by contract in the parishes of Thorne, Stainforth and Hatfield.

It has been done satisfactorily, although labour and transport difficulties occurred, especially in Hatfield Parish.

Closet Accommodation in the District

No. of Box Closets, 465.

No. of Privies with Covered Middens, 979.

No. of Water Closets, 5,273.

There were 8 conversions from box closets and privy middens to water closets during the year.

Bakehouses

9 Bakehouses on the Register.

All inspected during the year.

Slaughter Houses

There are no licensed slaughter houses at present.

Nuisances

Total number of Inspections during 1942, 87

Total number of Nuisances during 1942, 73.

Total number of Nuisances abated during 1942, 71.

Meat Inspection

The slaughtering of animals was prohibited as from 15th January 1940, and only emergency slaughtered animals have been inspected after that date.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There is one privately owned open-air swimming pool in Hatfield parish.

HOUSING

Number of New Houses erected during 1942

1	State Aided	none
	(a) by the Local Authority	none
	(b) by Private Enterprise	none
	Public Utility Societies, etc.	
2	Without State Aid	none

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:

1	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	52
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	60
2	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	
	Houses	nil
	Caravans	1
4	Number of dwelling-houses exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	6

2. *Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	42
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3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :*

(a)—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
2 Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil
(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	5
2 Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil
(c)—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:	
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	nil
2 Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	nil
(d)—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
1 Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	nil
2 Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	nil

4. *Housing Act, 1936 Part IV Overcrowding :*

(a)—1 Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..	nil
2 Number of families dwelling therein	nil
3 Number of persons dwelling therein	nil
(b)—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	3
(c)—1 Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	3
2 Number of persons concerned in such cases	37
(d)—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	nil

